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17. The traction drive according to Claim 1, wherein the maximum rope pressure of the load carrying ropes is approximately defined by the following equation:

$$P_{\max} = (2F/Dw)$$

Where F is the tension in the tension member and D is the diameter of the traction sheave.

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18. The traction drive according to Claim 1, further including a sheave liner disposed about the traction sheave, wherein the sheave liner defines the traction surface.

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19. The traction drive according to Claim 1, wherein the traction surface is defined by a coating layer that is bonded to the traction sheave.

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20. The traction drive according to Claim 1, wherein the traction sheave is formed from the material defining the traction surface.

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21. The traction drive according to Claim 20, wherein the traction sheave is formed from polyurethane.--

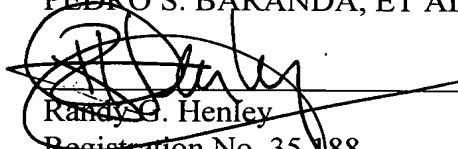
REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this amendment and pass claims 1-21 to issue.

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0750, Order No. OT-4190A.

Respectfully submitted,

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